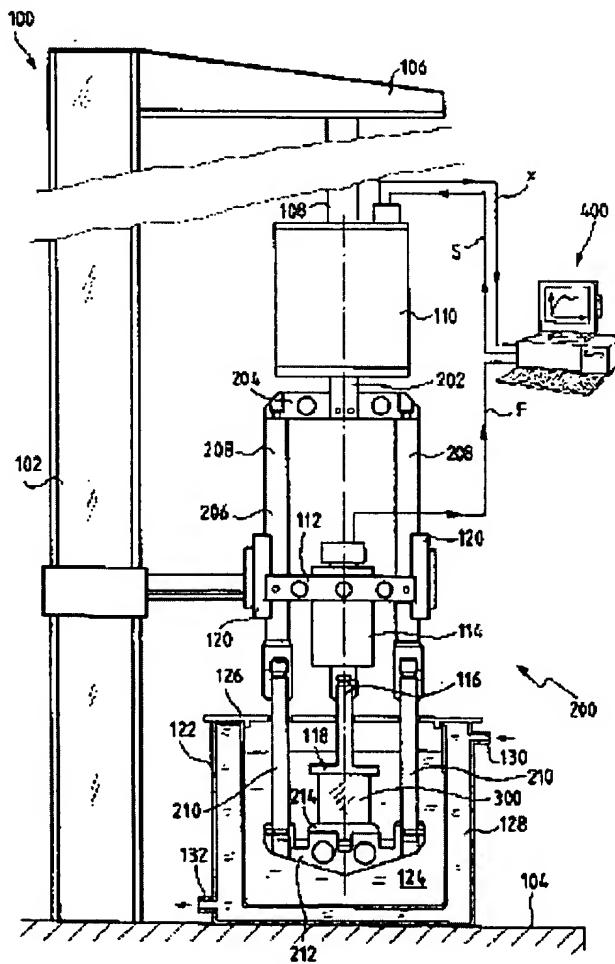


Measuring apparatus characterizing soft biomaterials, e.g. tissue in terms of force detected by sensor relative to linear displacement of sample applied by piston of computer controlled actuator

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Measuring apparatus which applies tension and compression to a sample of soft material, is new. The apparatus has a computer controlled actuator mounted on a fixed support. A piston of the actuator is attached to a proximal end of a carriage. The opposite ends of the sample are attached to the distal end of the carriage and a force sensor mounted on the support. Measuring apparatus which applies tension and compression to a sample of soft material, is new. The apparatus has a computer controlled actuator mounted on a fixed support. A piston of the actuator is attached to a proximal end of a carriage. The opposite ends of the sample are attached to the distal end of the carriage and a force sensor mounted on the support. A signal processor characterizes the material in terms of the force detected by the sensor relative to the linear displacement of the piston. The sample is immersed in a temperature controlled enclosure. The apparatus may be arranged vertically with the sample located below both the actuator and the sensor.



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